Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 SAJ-01 SAM-01 NIC-01 EB-07 AGR-05 /069 W

R 050730Z DEC 74

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3083 INFO USLO PEKING AMEMBASSY TAIPEI AMEMBASSY TOKYO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CONFIDENTIAL HONG KONG 13154

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

CINCPAC FOR CONSUL GENERAL CROSS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, CH, ECON, EAGR

SUBJECT: ECONOMIC CAMPAIGN TO REPLACE POLITICAL MOVEMENT?

1. WHILE IT IS PREMATURE TO PROJECT HOW IT WILL DEVELOP AND WHAT THE CONSEQUENCES MIGHT BE, THERE ARE TENUOUS SIGNS THAT THE POLITCIAL MOVEMENT, AS A MASS MOBILIZATION CAMPAIGN, IS TO BE SUBMERGED AND REPLACED BY A CAMPAIGN TO ORGANIZE THE MASSES FOR A "NEW LEAP" IN ECONOMIC PRODUCTION (HONG KONG 12830). PREPARATIONS FOR SUCH A MOVE COULD RELATE TO CURRENT REGIME STEPS TO DEFEND THE POLITICAL MOVEMENT'S ACHIEVEMENTS AND TO AVOW ITS CONTINUATION AS (LOWER INTENSITY) STUDY MOVEMENT (HONG KONG 13000; HONG KONG 12934). AS SUGGESTED EARLIER, THESE LOOK LIKE STEPS TO COUNTERACT A NEGATIVE ASSESSMENT OF THE MOVEMENT WHICH COULD BE EXPECTED TO GAIN CURRENCY IF THE MOVEMENT WERE TOJUST FIZZLE OUT. THUS, PRESENT EFFORTS SEEM DESIGNED TO CLAIM ACHIEVEMENTS FOR THE MOVEMENT AND PERHAPS ALSO SPOTLIGHT THE ECONOMY AS AN AREA FOR A NEW AND QUITE CONFIDENTIAL

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DIFFERENT CAMPAIGN.

2. WE ARE NOW STRUCK BY A PASSAGE IN A DECEMBER 1 SPEECH MADE BY KWANGTUNG PROVINCIAL CHIEF CHAO TZU-YANG IN WHICH THERE IS A HINT OF A TIMETABLE AND THE AGITATION-MOBILIZATION WORK FOR SUCH A "NEW LEAP" CAMPAIGN, AT LEAST AS IT WOULD RELATE TO AGRICULTURE. CHAO SAYS: "THIS WINTER AND NEXT SPRING (WE) MUST FIGHT A TOUGH BATTLE OF AGRICULTURAL CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION, SO AS TO LIBERATE OUR MINDS, CREATE EXPERIENCE, CULTIVATE CADRES, STEEL OUR RANKS, SET UP EXAMPLE, AND THEN ACHIEVE ALL-ROUND BLOSSOMING." CHAO PREFACES THIS WITH A CALL TO ENGAGE IN "SEVERAL YEARS OF ARDUOUS STRUGGLE" TO DEVELOP KWANGTUNG PROVINCE AFTER THE AGRICULTURAL MODEL AT TACHAI.

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